CELPIP Listening Practice Test 42

A free full-length CELPIP-General Listening practice test from CELPass.com: all 6 parts and 38 questions in the real test order, an answer sheet, the answer key and a score chart, and the transcripts.

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How to take this test

1. Open celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42 to play the recordings (free, no account). Play each one once only, as in the real test.
2. Read the questions for each recording here and mark your answers on the answer sheet.
3. Check your answers with the answer key, then read the transcript for every question you missed.

Prefer to take it on screen? The same test is free online at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42 with the recordings, marked as you go, with an estimated CLB. More free tests: celpass.com/celpip/practice-tests-pdf

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Part 1: Listening to Problem Solving

Catering Coordination

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

1. Why couldn't the man change it online?

A large orders must be repriced entirely
B the website was down this morning
C his delivery slot had already gone
D her order sheet closes at four

2. Why shouldn't the man rebook from scratch?

A a new order loses Friday's slot
B the paperwork would take too long
C the total would be repriced again
D her order sheet has already closed

3. What will the man do next?

A cancel the order and rebook it
B confirm the new total in person
C pay the higher minimum charge now
D wait for the emailed order form

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

4. What is wrong with the order?

A the meatless portions fall two short
B the plate count is too low
C the total misses the higher minimum
D the menu deadline has already passed

5. Why won't the change affect the price?

A the order already clears the minimum
B vegetarian meals use a separate line
C the number of meals is unchanged
D the change comes before Thursday's cutoff

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6. Why must the man send one number?

A the dietary line closes at five
B each amendment raises the total
C repeated changes delay the delivery
D the guest count cannot change

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

7. What must the man now tell colleagues?

A the new arrival time is guaranteed
B they should eat later than planned
C their meal will be kept warm
D the food arrives in two batches

8. What will the man reach for?

A



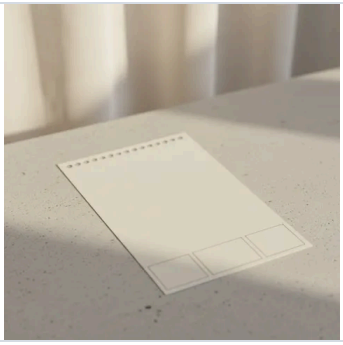
B



C



D



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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

The Broken Washing Machine

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

9. What are the speakers mainly deciding?

A Whether to repair or replace it
B Which laundromat to visit
C How to report the problem
D Who overloaded the machine

10. Why does WOMAN accept another repair?

A A new machine drains their budget
B She prefers the corner laundromat
C The landlord will cover it
D Overloading caused the damage

11. Why will MAN send a photo?

A To request a new machine
B To record the leak damage
C To claim the wash cost
D To justify the earlier repairs

12. Why agree to limit the loads?

A The landlord requires it
B The spin cycle grinds loudly
C Guests once crammed it full
D Overloading strained the motor

13. What will WOMAN do meanwhile?

A Take the laundry to a laundromat
B Email the landlord tonight
C Pin up a load limit
D Run one more overnight wash

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Comparing Piercing Options at a Piercing Studio

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

14. What two piercing options is the woman deciding between?

A Two lobe piercings on soft tissue
B A lobe piercing and a starter stud
C Two cartilage piercings on the upper ear
D A lobe piercing and a cartilage helix

15. What biological reason explains the helix's slower healing?

A It sits higher on the ear
B It always develops irritation bumps
C Cartilage receives less blood flow
D Saline slows tissue repair

16. Why is the lobe called useful preparation for cartilage?

A Practising aftercare on a more forgiving piercing
B Lobe piercings cost less than cartilage
C The lobe heals in six weeks
D Starting with the lobe speeds helix healing

17. What does aftercare for the lobe piercing involve?

A Cleaning with saline once a week
B Saline cleaning, clean hands, no side-sleeping
C Removing the starter stud each night
D Touching it often to check healing

18. What is the total cost including saline?

A Forty dollars
B Eight dollars
C Thirty-two dollars
D Forty-eight dollars

19. How long does the piercing itself take?

A Six to eight weeks
B Four to six months
C Roughly five minutes
D The first few weeks

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Woodstock Pool Reopens

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

20. The news item mentions that Torsten Okonkwo's children learned to swim at the pool

A to prove that swimming lessons will resume this fall.
B to show why the repair work felt personal to him.
C to explain why he charged the town for his labour.
D to suggest that the pool was originally built for children only.

21. The pool closed in 2024 because

A the town ran out of money to pay staff wages.
B inspectors found the old filtration system could not be fixed.
C a burst pipe flooded the changing rooms.
D provincial regulations banned pools built before 1990.

22. According to Lachlan Colautti, the fundraising effort

A picked up speed once a matching grant arrived.
B reached its goal before any grant was awarded.
C stalled completely after the grant fell through.
D was mostly funded by a single large donor.

23. Compared with Torsten Okonkwo's role in the project, Lachlan Colautti's role

A involved more hours of physical labour at the pool.
B was limited to testing the pressure valves.
C focused on raising money rather than doing hands-on repair work.
D included installing pipes alongside a licensed contractor.

24. The news report ends with

A a full return to the pool's old hours.
B an apology from the town council.
C a warning about pool safety rules.
D a plan to address a remaining problem.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Museum Tour Guide Training

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

25. What is the main purpose of this conversation?

A Decide whether assistants should guide tours
B Assign training tasks before discussion
C Announce practical training as scheduled
D Compare guide-based and practical training

26. What does the second speaker propose?

A Let assistants design their training
B Give everyone full practical training
C Cancel training until materials exist
D Send a pre-session guide

27. Why is the guide alone insufficient?

A Practice may disrupt regular duties
B Readers may not absorb it
C The process may become unmanageable
D It lacks real-task examples

28. What condition does the second speaker set?

A Replace the guide entirely
B Avoid all staff disruption
C Include real-task examples
D Keep the process manageable

29. What tradeoff affects practical training?

A Guides save time but invite skimming
B Practice helps but disrupts regular duties
C Practice is quick but unmanageable
D Examples improve relevance but cost more

30. What combined plan do they choose?

A Send only the guide
B Send guides, then target practice
C Hold an organization-wide vote
D Use only practical training

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31. What safeguard strengthens the plan?

A Publish guides before internal review

B Extend practice to one week

C Require assistants to co-write guides

D Include examples matching real tasks

32. What does the conversation conclude with?

A Use guides without follow-up

B Reserve practice, then compare results

C Abandon practice because of staffing

D Postpone training indefinitely

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Insurer Tests Team-Based Hybrid Work

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/42**

33. The central workplace question is how to

A remove commuting from most jobs
B combine flexibility with reliable coordination
C standardize schedules across all departments
D reward employees for visible attendance

34. Priya values remote work because it

A separates work from home life
B makes quick questions easier
C improves her promotion prospects
D protects time for focused work

35. According to Marcus, commuting can

A separate work from family time
B make employee output more visible
C reduce the need for meetings
D improve training documents automatically

36. Priya and Marcus agree office time helps most when

A the work needs quick discussion
B staff must be visibly present
C routine reports are being filed
D employees face long commutes

37. Management's pilot would succeed only if it

A cuts office costs immediately
B measures results beyond physical attendance
C uses identical schedules for every team
D lets employees choose without limits

38. The speaker ultimately suggests the company should

A use purpose-based hybrid scheduling
B restore fixed daily office hours
C make remote work the default
D let managers decide without guidelines

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Answer sheet

Write the letter of your answer for each question.

1 _____	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____
5 _____	6 _____	7 _____	8 _____
9 _____	10 _____	11 _____	12 _____
13 _____	14 _____	15 _____	16 _____
17 _____	18 _____	19 _____	20 _____
21 _____	22 _____	23 _____	24 _____
25 _____	26 _____	27 _____	28 _____
29 _____	30 _____	31 _____	32 _____
33 _____	34 _____	35 _____	36 _____
37 _____	38 _____		

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Answer key

Part 1: Catering Coordination

1 A large orders must be repriced entirely

2 A a new order loses Friday's slot

3 B confirm the new total in person

4 A the meatless portions fall two short

5 C the number of meals is unchanged

6 C repeated changes delay the delivery

7 B they should eat later than planned

8 C Picture C

Part 2: The Broken Washing Machine

9 A Whether to repair or replace it

10 C The landlord will cover it

11 B To record the leak damage

12 D Overloading strained the motor

13 A Take the laundry to a laundromat

Part 3: Comparing Piercing Options at a Piercing Studio

14 D A lobe piercing and a cartilage helix

15 C Cartilage receives less blood flow

16 A Practising aftercare on a more forgiving piercing

17 B Saline cleaning, clean hands, no side-sleeping

18 D Forty-eight dollars

19 C Roughly five minutes

Part 4: Woodstock Pool Reopens

20 B to show why the repair work felt personal to him.

21 B inspectors found the old filtration system could not be fixed.

22 A picked up speed once a matching grant arrived.

23 C focused on raising money rather than doing hands-on repair work.

24 D a plan to address a remaining problem.

Part 5: Museum Tour Guide Training

25 D Compare guide-based and practical training

26 D Send a pre-session guide

27 B Readers may not absorb it

28 D Keep the process manageable

29 B Practice helps but disrupts regular duties

30 B Send guides, then target practice

31 D Include examples matching real tasks

32 B Reserve practice, then compare results

Part 6: Insurer Tests Team-Based Hybrid Work

33 B combine flexibility with reliable coordination

34 D protects time for focused work

35 A separate work from family time

36 A the work needs quick discussion

37 B measures results beyond physical attendance

38 A use purpose-based hybrid scheduling

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Your estimated CLB

Correct answers (of 38)	Estimated level
38	CLB 12
37	CLB 11
35–36	CLB 10
33–34	CLB 9
30–32	CLB 8
27–29	CLB 7
22–26	CLB 6
17–21	CLB 5
11–16	CLB 4

An estimate: CELPIP converts raw scores with a table for each test form, so the real cut-offs vary a little.

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Transcripts

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Part 1: Catering Coordination

Section 1

MAN: Do you take catering changes at the counter? I've got a lunch booked for Friday, and five more people just said yes.

WOMAN: Five extra is nothing. I can put those on now.

MAN: I tried it on the website this morning. It wouldn't take.

WOMAN: It wouldn't, no. Anything over twenty-five plates has to come through one of us, because the whole order gets priced again at a higher minimum.

MAN: Priced again? I've only added five.

WOMAN: I know. But the figure you worked out at home will be low.

MAN: Should I cancel it and put a clean one in?

WOMAN: I wouldn't. It's not the paperwork, it's your delivery slot. That sits with the original booking, and Friday mornings booked up weeks ago.

MAN: So amend it, don't start over.

WOMAN: Exactly. Give me ten minutes and I'll have the new total, then you confirm it with me here.

MAN: Is there a rush?

WOMAN: A bit. My order sheet goes in at four, and after that your slot's only provisional.

MAN: Four's fine. I'll come back after my meeting.

WOMAN: Good. I'll email you the amended form once it's through.

Section 2

WOMAN: Your new total's just come out: twenty-eight plates, and it clears the higher minimum with room to spare. Sign here and it's done.

MAN: Thanks. Now something else has come up, though. Two of the twenty-eight have just told me they're vegetarian.

WOMAN: So the count's right and the mix is wrong.

MAN: That's it. The menu I picked has four vegetarian portions. I need six.

WOMAN: Then we don't touch the count. We switch two of the meat portions over, and everything else stays exactly as it is.

MAN: And that doesn't reopen the pricing?

WOMAN: No. Price follows the plate count, not what's on them, so the total stands. What changes is the notice. Normally you'd have until Thursday to alter a menu, but dietary meals are prepped on a

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separate line, so they close earlier, tonight.

MAN: Tonight. That's tighter than I'd like, but I can have a final number by five.

WOMAN: One number, please. If they keep coming in, the kitchen reshuffles its prep, and your delivery time moves with it.

MAN: Understood. I'll call the last two people and send you one figure.

WOMAN: Perfect. Then Friday's mix is sorted.

Section 3

MAN: I sent the six vegetarian through, and the caterer's just called.

WOMAN: I saw. Moving the dietary prep pushed your drop-off back an hour, twelve thirty instead of eleven thirty.

MAN: Which is the part that bothers me. I've told thirty people lunch at eleven thirty.

WOMAN: Then it's either push the lunch back and tell them, or hope the van runs early.

MAN: Could they bring half at eleven thirty and the rest after?

WOMAN: I asked. Two runs, and the driver won't promise either drop-off, so I wouldn't.

MAN: What about something to keep the first half hot?

WOMAN: A chafing dish has to be booked the day before, and we're past that. The van's loaded: your plates, the big coffee urn, and the amended form the driver hands you, so there's nothing for you to print.

MAN: Then I'll take twelve thirty and push the lunch back. Nobody minds a change if they hear it today.

WOMAN: Sensible. Still, Friday's heavy - twelve thirty isn't a promise either.

MAN: Right. I'll get my phone out and tell the group now, before people wander off and make their own plans.

WOMAN: Good idea.

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Part 2: The Broken Washing Machine

WOMAN: Hi Aaron, the washing machine is making that grinding noise again on the spin cycle, and this time it left my sweater soaking wet.

MAN: I heard it from my room. I still think we should repair it; a new one would wipe out our household budget.

WOMAN: Repairs on a machine this old feel like throwing money away. We've already paid a technician twice this year, and it still rattles loudly.

MAN: True, but the landlord will cover the repair if we report it promptly. It costs us nothing as long as we're quick.

WOMAN: I didn't know that. If the landlord covers it, fixing it once more is easier to accept than buying new.

MAN: Right. I'll email him tonight with a photo of the puddle so there's a clear record of the damage.

WOMAN: Good. Meanwhile, can we agree not to overload it? Three of my sweaters at once probably strained the motor.

MAN: Agreed. I'll pin a small load limit right on the door so guests don't cram it either, like they did last time over the holidays.

WOMAN: Perfect. I'll drop the wet laundry at the place around the corner so we're not stuck without clean clothes.

MAN: Thanks. Keep the receipt; if the landlord is slow this month, we can ask him to cover the wash as well.

WOMAN: Smart. And let's not run it overnight anymore; if it leaks while we sleep, the unit below could end up with water damage.

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Part 3: Comparing Piercing Options at a Piercing Studio

MAN: Hey, welcome in! What are you thinking of getting done today?

WOMAN: Hi, I'm Priya. I've been wanting a second ear piercing, but I saw two options online, a standard lobe piercing and something called a helix. I'm not sure whether to get another lobe piercing first, or go straight to the helix as my first cartilage piercing.

MAN: Sure, I'm Devon, let's go over both. A second lobe piercing is on soft tissue, so it typically heals in about six to eight weeks for many people and is often lower-maintenance. A helix is cartilage, on the upper ear, and commonly takes four to six months to heal, though individual healing times vary and it may need more careful aftercare.

WOMAN: Why does cartilage take so much longer?

MAN: Cartilage has less blood flow than the soft tissue in your lobe, and less blood flow generally means slower healing, plus it may be more prone to complications like bumps or irritation if aftercare isn't followed carefully.

WOMAN: That's good to know. Given that, would you recommend I start with the lobe piercing first?

MAN: If you'd prefer an easier start, I'd suggest doing the lobe first as practice with aftercare routines, since if you can manage the simpler healing process well, you'll be in a better position for cartilage later, whereas jumping straight to cartilage means learning proper care on a piercing that's less forgiving of mistakes.

WOMAN: That makes sense, I'll start with the lobe then. What does aftercare actually involve?

MAN: General aftercare usually includes cleaning with saline solution twice a day, avoiding touching it with unwashed hands, and not sleeping on that side for the first few weeks, though individual instructions may vary.

WOMAN: I can manage that. How much does the lobe piercing cost?

MAN: Forty dollars, which includes the piercing itself and a starter stud, saline solution is an additional eight dollars if you don't already have some at home.

WOMAN: And how long before I can change out the starter stud?

MAN: For the lobe, wait until it's fully healed, around six to eight weeks, before swapping it, and keep using the saline the whole time.

WOMAN: I don't have any, so let's add that. Can we do it now?

MAN: Yes, I'm free right now, it only takes about five minutes.

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Part 4: Woodstock Pool Reopens

MAN: The Woodstock Memorial Pool reopened Saturday morning after sitting empty for two years, and by nine o'clock the parking lot was already full. The pool closed in 2024 when inspectors found the original filtration system, installed in the 1980s, was leaking and beyond repair. The town didn't have the roughly $340,000 needed to replace it, so a group of residents stepped in. Lachlan Colautti, who organized the fundraising committee, said the group held bottle drives, a silent auction, and a series of pancake breakfasts before finally landing a matching grant from a provincial recreation fund last spring. "We were maybe a third of the way there before that grant came through," Colautti said. "After that, things moved fast." Torsten Okonkwo, a plumber who volunteered nearly two hundred hours installing the new system, said the work wasn't glamorous but mattered to him because his own kids learned to swim at that pool. He spent several weekends this summer running pipe and testing pressure valves alongside a licensed contractor. The pool will run on a reduced schedule for now, open only in the afternoons on weekdays, since the town still hasn't hired enough lifeguards to cover full hours. Colautti said the committee plans to keep fundraising, this time for a proper lifeguard training program, so the pool can eventually return to its old summer schedule.

Part 5: Museum Tour Guide Training

man2: Before we send anything about training the museum assistant to lead tours, I want us to slow down. The session date is close and the materials are not settled.

woman1: The simplest answer is sending a short guide before the session. The advantage is that it would save meeting time and let people prepare.

man1: They might understand it, but some people may skim it without learning enough. That is the part I think people will remember.

man2: The other possibility is running a smaller hands-on practice session. It would let people try the work while questions are fresh, although it could take staff away from regular duties.

woman1: I am open to that, as long as we do not create a process nobody can manage.

man1: Then let us send the guide first and hold one targeted practice block. It keeps the decision practical without hiding the risk.

man2: Good. We should also include examples that match the real tasks, because training fails when it explains rules but not real tasks.

woman1: I can trim the guide to one page today, and you can reserve a short practice slot before the next staff update.

man1: I will do that. Once we compare the results before the notice goes out, we will revise the materials and test one session.

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Part 6: Insurer Tests Team-Based Hybrid Work

MAN: Good afternoon. Northline Insurance is reviewing its work policy after two years of department-set schedules. At first the disagreement sounds familiar: some want to stay home, others want everyone back. But the interviews suggest the real question is not simply where people sit. It is how the company can get dependable teamwork without taking away useful independence. Priya Shah, a claims analyst, prefers working from home most days. She likes avoiding a crowded train, but the bigger gain is less obvious. At home, she can finish difficult files before messages and casual questions break her concentration. In other words, what she protects is not merely travel time; it is a long, uninterrupted stretch of work. That said, Priya does not support complete freedom. When nobody knows who is available, a quick question can turn into three emails and a meeting. She wants protected focus time, along with planned office days for decisions that need several people. Marcus Lee, who supervises new employees, places more value on the office. New staff, he says, learn important things by hearing how experienced colleagues handle unusual cases. Those lessons rarely appear in training documents. Still, Marcus admits that attendance is weak evidence of contribution: someone can be visible all day and accomplish very little. His second argument for commuting is personal rather than managerial: the ride home gives him time to shift out of work mode before seeing his family. He would not require office attendance for routine reporting, but he does want it when teams need quick back-and-forth discussion. Human resources director Elena Brooks says both extreme policies create problems. A fixed three-day rule is easy to explain, yet it treats every task as though it benefits equally from physical presence. A fully optional system sounds fair, but it may favour employees who can appear whenever senior managers happen to be there. Brooks is proposing a six-month team-based trial. Each department would choose shared office days for planning, training, and difficult handoffs, while keeping remote blocks for concentrated work. Crucially, management would judge the trial by project delays, customer response times, and repeated errors—not by how often employee badges are scanned. So the likely answer is neither a return to daily commuting nor permanent home-based work. The stronger policy would use office time for tasks that gain from quick exchange and remote time for work that needs sustained attention. The location would be a tool, not a reward or a test of loyalty.

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